

ABSWE

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Individual Highlights:

PIP Experience	2
A Kind Word	3
CE & Job Opportunities	4
New Licenses	5
CE Hours	6

Upcoming State Holiday's

Oct. 11, 2004
Nov. 11, 2004
Nov. 25, 2004
Dec. 24, 2004
Dec. 31, 2004

Please note that the Board Office will be closed on these days.

Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners 334/242-5860 or 1-888-879-3672

View from the Chair

by: Sallie A. Watkins, LCSW, PIP

My tenure on the Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners (ABSWE) has truly been an educational and enriching experience. At times it has also been frustrating working within our current laws and Administrative Code which needs updating. The ABSWE recommended several changes to the law and the Administrative Code during the last legislative session. However, the board was unable to secure legislative support to propose the majority of these recommendations. Fortunately, an amendment for a one-time change in board appointments was passed by the legislature. Hopefully, this year there will be more legislative support and a bill can be drafted to address the majority of the ABSWE's recommended changes.

However, I am pleased to report that there may be two (2) changes on the horizon that may not require legislative action that will benefit licensed social workers and the citizens of Alabama. The

first issue involves continuing education requirements. Recently, the ABSWE was informed by the Attorney General's Office that, "There is nothing in the law, therefore, to prohibit the Board of Social Work Examiners from adopting a rule that provides for the special and exceptional circumstances that prevent a deployed member of the U.S. Armed Forces, who is a licensed social worker, from attending continuing education classes or seminars." In addition, the Attorney General's Office offered, "The board might wish to consult with other licensing boards and agencies of the State of Alabama to determine how best to serve the needs of the public while not punishing the reservist who has been called to active duty." Before developing a guideline on this issue, the board is exploring how other licensing boards in Alabama as well as other U.S. social work licensing boards have addressed this issue. The second issue involves the renewal

of social work licenses through the internet by a third party. The Alabama Board of Nursing is currently using this system with what appears to be good results for everyone. Again, before implementing this new option the ABSWE will be addressing some specific issues with the third party vendor overseeing the program along with the current licensing boards that use this renewal process. Unfortunately, there will be an additional convenience fee for this service. However, with our busy lives it will be nice to have additional options rather than being limited to mailing notarized documents with a certified check. Hopefully, both of these changes can be implemented within the next few months.

As I have stated in previous newsletters, these are difficult but exciting times in which we live. I am pleased that I have been a part of the ABSWE for the last three (3) years.

PRIVATE INDEPENDENT PRACTICE (PIP) REQUIRES EXPERIENCE

by: Diana McCampbell, LCSW



"A LCSW can be approved for a PIP in one or all five (5) areas of social work practice."

"Being a private practitioner brings added responsibility because those we serve are often some of our most vulnerable."

Each month, as part of their many responsibilities, members of the Board review requests from social workers seeking Private Independent Practice (PIP) status. The Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners Administrative Code states "an LCSW may apply to the Board to engage in Private Independent Practice of social work. Private independent practice of social work means that portion of social work practice in which a Licensed Certified Social Worker is independently engaged in the provision of social work services..." A LCSW can be approved for a PIP in one or all five (5) areas of social work practice including social casework, clinical social work, community organization, social work research, and social work administration.

The Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners was created to protect the public, and as a result, when reviewing requests for PIP status, we look very carefully at the experience and

qualifications of the applicants. Once approved, these individuals will be practicing independently with little or no supervision and every effort is made to insure they meet the minimum qualifications necessary to "protect the public against dangers arising from attempts of incompetent or unscrupulous persons to practice the profession of social work."

Section 850-X-2-.04 (4) of the Administrative Code describes what is required before an individual can engage in the Private independent practice of social work. First, one must be a LCSW; second, **one must have two (2) years full-time or three (3) years part-time post-graduate experience** "under the appropriate supervision in the specified social work method in which the applicant will practice" (post-graduate experience refers to experience gained after receiving a master or doctoral degree in social work). For example, an individual seeking PIP status as a

clinical social worker should submit documentation that would show the Board their competency and the depth of their clinical experience, which would warrant their being approved as a PIP; as an example, they might show where they worked full time, two years or more, in an agency, hospital or mental health setting where their primary responsibility was individual or group counseling with families and youth. Although this example is simplistic, the principle that a social worker be competent in the chosen practice area should prompt readers to think about whether their experiences support PIP status.

Being a private practitioner brings added responsibility because those we serve are often some of our most vulnerable citizens. As ASWB Executive Director, Donna Deangelis states "Any position of authority and responsibility carries with it the professional expectation of ethical practice."

A KIND WORD By: Ann-Marie Jones, LGSW, Board Vice Chair

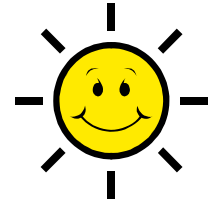
Are there people in your life that you like, love, care about, or simply appreciate? Do you ever tell them? Many people work in "Thankless Jobs", where they rarely or never hear the words "Thank You". Well today, why not take the time out of your busy schedule to tell your employee, employer, colleague, coworker, friend, spouse, child(ren), your next door neighbor, or anyone else on your list how much you appreciate him or her.

There are people who go

through each day with issues and problems that weigh heavily on their hearts and minds. One would be very surprised to know just how much a kind word means to someone, who is smiling on the outside, but contemplating suicide on the inside. Take some time to share a few kind words with someone and make his or her day a little brighter. You never know, you could be saving a life.

Kim B. Smith and Brenda W. Holden, you are greatly appreciated for the

awesome tasks performed for the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners. To the Members of the Board, you are a wonderful group of individuals and you do a great service for the State of Alabama. To the social workers in the State of Alabama, keep up the good work and remember, you are appreciated.



Share a kind word or a "Thank You" to somebody today!

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA
SOCIAL WORK

**Advanced-Standing
M.S.W. Programs in
Mobile and Montgomery
Begin June 2005**

Applications are now being accepted for the one-year M.S.W. advanced-standing programs (for those with a CSWE-accredited B.S.W.) to be held in Montgomery and Mobile, Alabama.

Call (205) 348-8557 or (205) 348-3943 for more information and an application, or apply online at <http://graduate.ua.edu> and at <http://socialwork.ua.edu>.



Our Web Address has Changed

*"The new address is:
www.socialwork.alabama.gov."*

Because our old web address was difficult for some people to find, we requested a new one. The new address is: www.socialwork.alabama.gov The old web address name will only continue to work for a few more months, so please note the new address before the old one is

discontinued. Although licensees were acquainted with the old web address, it was not easy for consumers to find us, in fact it was just about impossible. Hopefully the new address will be more accommodating to the public and licensees alike.

Don't forget you can still

check out the site for the list of approved CE programs and also verify the credentials for a CE provider before you register or attend a program.

CE and Job Opportunities

Alabama Post Adoption Connections is offering: *Celebrate Adoption With Us!* On Saturday, November 6th, 8:30 Am to 1 PM in Montgomery at Vaughn Church of Christ. Featuring Workshops on: Search and Reunion, Medical Aspects of Adoption, Legal and Financial Issues, The Adoption Process,

Adoption Triad Panel, and International and Domestic Adoption. Four (4) hours are being offered for Social Work CE. For more information call 334/409-9477 or 1-866-944-1044. This program is also being offered in Huntsville, Birmingham, Dothan and Mobile on the same date.

Tobacco Free Alabama Presents

2004 Tobacco Education Seminar February 17, 2004 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Heritage Baptist Church Montgomery, Alabama CE will be provided. For More Information Call 334-324-7510 or visit www.tobaccofreealabama.org

Mental Health Social Worker II

position open at North Alabama Regional Hospital in Decatur, AL. Contact Cecilia Graham, PIP, Director of Social Work at 256-560-2260.

Examination writers sought

"As you might remember Alabama had three exam writers last year." Winter 2004 Newsletter.

The Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB), which develops and maintains the social work licensing exams, is seeking examination question writers for training in 2005. Writers are paid \$1,000 for attending a weekend training and submitting 30 acceptable questions.

Writers should have a degree in social work, a social work license, and the willingness to produce 30 questions that are

accepted by an editor, over six to eight months. They must also be available for training in Virginia June 24 – 26, 2005. Travel, meals and lodging expenses for the training are paid by ASWB.

Writers will be chosen for demographic balance as well as credentials and expertise. Social workers with all levels of social work education and

experience are needed. Applicants will be asked to complete a short exercise via mail or e-mail to indicate probable success in writing questions

To apply, send a letter of application and a resume by December 3, 2004, to: Exam Writers, ASWB, 400 South Ridge Parkway, Suite B, Culpeper, VA 22701.

Contact: Kathleen Hoffman, (800) 225-6880, Ext. 3006, khoffman@aswb.org

LBSW's

3940B	WOODS	CARMEN	N	JUN 2004	BESSEMER
3941B	GABRIEL	ELIZABETH	A	JUN 2004	MONTGOMERY
3942B	JACKSON	AMANDA	K	JUN 2004	GADSDEN
3943B	RAFALSKY	ALYSIA		JUN 2004	HOOVER
3944B	BISHOP	AMANDA	L	JUN 2004	BIRMINGHAM
3945B	PENNINGTON	LISA	L	JUN 2004	TUSCALOOSA
3946B	COFER	CHRISTINA	L	JUN 2004	HEFLIN
3947B	BEAUMONT	MELANIE	P	JUN 2004	HARVEST
3948B	WILLOUGHBY	TASHA	N	JUN 2004	DOTHAN
3949B	SMITH	FELICIA	G	JUL 2004	CENTRE
3950B	BIBBS-DOWDLEY	JACQUELINE	D	JUL 2004	BESSEMER
3951B	SCHRIMSHER	APRIL	J	JUL 2004	MADISON
3952B	WRIGHT	CHADMON	D	JUL 2004	GUNTERSVILLE
3953B	MARSH	DEANNA	S	JUL 2004	OPELIKA
3954B	MORRISSETTE	BESSIE		JUL 2004	TROY
3955B	COLEMAN	LAKEISHA	T	AUG 2004	BIRMINGHAM
3956B	MASTERS	LISA	F	AUG 2004	BIRMINGHAM
3957B	EDWARDS	NATALIE	J	AUG 2004	PELL CITY
3958B	ROLLINS	MARCIA	A	AUG 2004	FYFFE
3959B	BARNETTE	ELIZABETH	A	AUG 2004	OZARK
3960B	KIMBRELL	CYNTHIA	C	AUG 2004	BERRY
3961B	GRIFFIN	TERESA	G	AUG 2004	KILLEN
3962B	JACKSON	STEPHANIE	E	AUG 2004	HUEYTOWN
3963B	MARSH	MEREDITH	L	AUG 2004	BIRMINGHAM
3964B	SCOTT	TARA	L	AUG 2004	DOTHAN

LGSW's

1887G	HOLMES	AMY	F	JUN 2004	FULTONDALE
1888G	PRESSLEY	TRACY	D	JUN 2004	MONTGOMERY
1889G	SMITH	ANNE	E	JUN 2004	BIRMINGHAM
1890G	TYLER	MICHAEL	K	JUN 2004	MOBILE
1891G	COOK	ANGELA	R	JUL 2004	HARTSELLE
1892G	WARREN	STEFANIE		JUL 2004	HUNTSVILLE
1893G	FINLEY	JEM		JUL 2004	IRONDALE
1894G	FOULKS	ASHLEY	M	JUL 2004	HUNTSVILLE
1895G	FRANKLIN	AMANDA	M	JUL 2004	BIRMINGHAM
1896G	LOWREY	KRISTIN	C	JUL 2004	BIRMINGHAM
1897G	ALLEN	DIANE	D	AUG 2004	MONTGOMERY
1898G	BALL	LAUREN	E	AUG 2004	NORTHPORT
1899G	DEGOSTIN	ERIN	M	AUG 2004	LITTLE ROCK
1900G	BRADSHAW	SOMMER	C	AUG 2004	BIRMINGHAM
1901G	CARLEY	DUANE	A	AUG 2004	SARALAND
1902G	KNIERIM	JENNIFER	H	AUG 2004	BIRMINGHAM
1903G	PLOTT	MARGARET	W	AUG 2004	BIRMINGHAM
1904G	TUCKER	MARY	E	AUG 2004	MONTGOMERY
1905G	CHAPMAN	LAURA	J	AUG 2004	SCOTTSBORO
1906G	CHINNERS	JAMES	R	AUG 2004	MOBILE
1907G	REDMILL	AUDRA	C	AUG 2004	TUSCALOOSA
1908G	CAHILL	STACY	L	AUG 2004	BIRMINGHAM
1909G	COLLINS	TAMARA	G	AUG 2004	BIRMINGHAM
1910G	FULMER	BARBARA	M	AUG 2004	WEAVER
1911G	HOLMES	BRANDY	W	AUG 2004	HOLLYPOND
1912G	KELLY	HILLARY	P	AUG 2004	BIRMINGHAM
1913G	UPTON	AMANDA	K	AUG 2004	TUSCALOOSA

LCSW's

1826C	STONE	JUDITH	L	JUN 2004	MOBILE
1827C	ABERCROMBIE	WELDON	P	JUN 2004	FAIRHOPE
1828C	TANSEY	PAMELA	A	JUN 2004	MOBILE
1829C	COWART	JENNIFER	A	JUN 2004	BUSH
1830C	TOSCH	LOUISE	W	JUN 2004	TALLASSEE
1831C	CROTWELL	ALLISON	B	JUL 2004	BIRMINGHAM
1832C	ARRIAZA	PABLO		JUL 2004	TUSCALOOSA
1833C	COLEMAN	ANGELA	M	JUL 2004	SHUQUALAK
1834C	PARENT	STEPHANIE	J	JUL 2004	BIRMINGHAM
1835C	ROGERS	ANNA	L	AUG 2004	BIRMINGHAM

PIP's

0674-1827C	ABERCROMBIE	WELDON	P	JUN 2004	FAIRHOPE
0675-0998C	BRUNSON	SUSAN	L	JUN 2004	BIRMINGHAM
0676-1778C	COBB	YDRICKA	L	JUN 2004	TUSCALOOSA
0677-1637C	HOBBS	MARSHA	M	JUN 2004	EIGHT MILE
0678-1798C	JACKSON	STACEY	N	JUN 2004	MADISON
0679-1810C	LOCKHART	ANGELA	S	JUN 2004	NORTHPORT
0680-1747C	MCINTURFF	BRONWYN	A	JUN 2004	BIRMINGHAM
0681-1745C	SILZMAN	JOAN	R	JUN 2004	FAIRHOPE
0682-1828C	TANSEY	PAMELA	A	JUN 2004	MOBILE
0683-1588C	ARTMAN	PAMELA	S	JUL 2004	MONTGOMERY
0684-0705C	GEROGIANNIS	SHARON	S	JUL 2004	FAIRHOPE
0685-1804C	HACKNEY	CHRISTA	F	JUL 2004	TUSCALOOSA
0686-1722C	PASCUALES	NORMA	T	JUL 2004	GADSDEN
0687-1398C	PERRY	BRENDA	K	JUL 2004	MOBILE
0688-1826C	STONE	JUDITH	L	JUL 2004	MOBILE

You can contact us at:

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100 North Union Street Suite 736
Montgomery AL 36130

Mailing Address:

Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners
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Montgomery AL 36130-1620

Telephone: 334/242-5860 **Fax:** 334/242-0280

Toll Free: 1-888-879-3672

Web Address: *New Address*

www.socialwork.alabama.gov

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

socialwork.alabama.gov

You may hear a new voice on the telephone

Felecia Moorer joined the Board staff in late July of this year. She is currently learning the requirements for licensure and is assisting Kim with the renewal and exam registration.

Felecia is an Auburn University at Montgomery

student, majoring in nursing. We are glad to have Felecia working with us, and we're happy that she has the determination to pursue her dream to become a nurse.

Felecia served 3 years in the Army right out of high school and was stationed

at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. She also spent a 5-month tour of duty in Iraq. Felecia has a busy schedule as a full-time employee and student. However, Felecia enjoys shopping in what little free time she has available.

Continuing Education (CE) Hours Must Be Earned In the Renewal Months

Please Be Aware

Beginning January 1, 2005 all licensees will be required to earn their CE hours during the 24 months of their renewal period. Although there is a 60-day grace period, this grace period is to submit the renewal forms to the

Board; **it is not to be used to obtain CE hours.** The hours must have been earned during the period from the month following your renewal date to the next renewal date (24 months later). Many people are using the extra time to catch up with the required hours, but

this is not the intended use of the grace period. Compliance with this policy will be enforced beginning January 1, 2005. Renewal notices mailed out since August will contain information concerning this change in policy.

New email address for the Board of Social Work Examiners Office

Due to changes made by the Information Systems Division of Alabama our email addresses have been changed. Our new email addresses are as follows: For Brenda Holden:

brenda.holden@swb.alabama.gov

For Kim Smith: kim.smith@swb.alabama.gov

For Felecia Moorer:

felecia.moorer@swb.alabama.gov

Email sent to our old email addresses will be forwarded to our new address for a period of time.

ABSWE

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

